

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The surface of a photosensitive body is charged by a scorotron charger including a discharge electrode, a back plate having an aperture on the bottom face, and a grid.

5 Air is passed along the back plate for ventilation. The back plate also has a vent aperture on the side face. The aperture rate of the aperture on the bottom face of the part corresponding to the vent aperture is set lower than that on the bottom face of the other part, in the

10 axial direction of the charger.